

## Senator Al Franken's Office High School Intern Curriculum

Senator Al Franken wants high school interns to have a dynamic, meaningful experience that will expose students to government work and the operations of his office and help prepare them to work in a professional environment. He believes that students provide important insight for his office into issues that affect youth.

To help facilitate this, each high school intern, with the advice and assistance of their mentor and Franken staff, will complete at least 6 of the 10 projects listed below. High school interns will meet monthly with a Franken staff person, either in person, by phone, or Skype, to connect and discuss projects. Interns should plan to spend 3-6 hours a month working on this internship.

In addition, high school interns will end the school year by creating a presentation on a specific issue that is important to their community, building off the prior work of the year, that they will present to Senator Al Franken's team at a meeting in Saint Paul. High school interns will also have the opportunity to meet Senator Al Franken the day of their Saint Paul meeting.

Possible Projects
Attend a local government meeting and report back what you learned about the meeting and the process.
Spend at least a half of a day job shadowing a Franken staff person.
Find a news story on an issue facing your community and research the policy connections of the story.
Conduct an Informational Interview with a person who works with youth; i.e. a teacher, coach, afterschool tutor, etc.
Research a federal bill that affects your community and write a one page summary on the bill.
Lead a youth listening session / youth community meeting to discuss an issue(s) affecting youth in your community.
Resume review
Review a policy that exists in your school or school district and describe why you think the policy was put in place and your overall reaction to the policy.
Participate in a Franken casework call with constituent and/or agency. (Casework team)
Consider an issue or a problem facing your community, propose a solution to the problem and write up how you would try to succeed in achieving the solution through advocacy or otherwise.